California Weather-Hydro Conditions during August 2007

As of September 1, Water Year 2007 statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 65% of average to date; runoff, 50% of average to date; and reservoir storage, 85% of average for the date. On April 1, the statewide snow pack was about 40% of the April 1 average (the usual date of maximum accumulation). This is the smallest snowpack for April 1 since 1988 when the statewide snowpack was at 30 percent of the April 1 average. On May 1, 2007, the statewide snowpack was only about 25% of normal due to below-normal snowfall and above-normal temperatures during April. Usually, snowmelt continues well into June, but by June 1 of this water year, the statewide snowpack was essentially gone. In general, seasonal precipitation during this water year has been below average, especially in Southern California. On August 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index had a seasonal total of 36.5", which is about 74% of the seasonal average to date and about 73% of average for an entire Water Year (50.0"). During Water Year 2007, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index had the sixth driest January and March on record. (In contrast, the other large precipitation months of December and February were above normal at 101% and 170% of average, respectively.) The Water Year 2007 October through July seasonal total of 36.5" is the 26th driest year out of 88 years of record. In both Northern and Southern California, fire season began early because of the dryness.

As of June 5, 2007, the date of the last forecast for this Water Year, the projected median April-July unimpaired snowmelt runoff for the State's major water supply basins ranged from 56% (Shasta Lake Inflow) to 22% (Tule River). Sacramento River unimpaired runoff observed through August 31, 2007 was about 9.9 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 55% of average. (On August 31, 2006, the observed Sacramento River unimpaired runoff through that date was about 31.5 MAF or about 173% of average.) The median forecasts of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley Water Year Type indexes are "Dry" and "Critical," respectively.

Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 09/01/2007 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June)					
	Jul 1 to Date 2007 - 2008 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2006 - 2007 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg Jul 1 to Jun 30 2007 - 2008
Eureka	1.05	194	0.04	7	2
Redding	1.15	426	0.04	15	3
Sacramento	0.01	9	0.00	0	0
San Francisco	0.01	10	0.00	0	0
Fresno	0.02	100	0.00	0	0
Bakersfield	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
Los Angeles	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
San Diego	0.00	0	0.05	42	0

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 09/01/2007								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	1,554	1,839	85	2,448	63	---	894
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	2,134	2,966	72	4,552	47	-2,418	2,418
Lake Oroville	Feather	1,823	2,377	77	3,538	52	-1,715	1,715
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	660	653	101	966	68	-306	306
Folsom Lake	American	376	621	61	977	38	-601	601
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,492	1,374	109	2,420	62	-928	928
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,301	1,427	91	2,030	64	-729	729
Lake McClure	Merced	377	564	67	1,025	37	-647	648
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	186	230	81	520	36	-334	334
Pine Flat Res	Kings	187	387	48	1,000	19	-813	813
Isabella	Kern	126	212	60	568	22	-308	442
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	477	890	54	2,039	23	---	1,562

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) 90-Day long-range seasonal weather outlook (for September through November), issued August 16, suggests below average precipitation for Southern California and most of Central California. Average rainfall is predicted for the northern portion of the State. Temperatures are expected to be above normal for Eastern California and average for Western California. The latest CPC long-range weather outlook for September, issued August 31, suggests below average precipitation for almost all of the State. Temperatures are expected to be above normal for most of California, except for the North and South Coasts, where average temperatures are suggested. For both the one- and three-month forecasts, temperatures are expected to be well above average for the American Southwest.